

MINUTES

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE

November 6, 2008

Meeting held at:

Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing address is:

Balboa Park Administration
2125 Park Boulevard MS39
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Jerelyn Dilno
Vicki Granowitz
Mick Hager
Andrew Kahng
David Kinney
Mike McDowell
Donald Steele (Arr. 5:40)

Members Absent

Jennifer Ayala
Laurie Burgett
Mike Singleton

Staff Present

Kathleen Hasenauer
Susan Lowery-Mendoza
Bruce Martinez

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Granowitz called the meeting to order at 5:37 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2008 MEETING WITH CORRECTIONS TO REFLECT SINGLTON SECONDDING ADOPTION ITEMS 201 AND 202 (KINNEY /DILNO 5-0) ABSTENTION- MCDOWELL

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Warren Simon, Chairperson of the Balboa Park Decembers Nights Committee, reported that there will be a few changes to this year's venue. The Restaurant Taste will be located in the Palisades Parking lot adjacent to the Hall of Champions and a synthetic ice skating rink will also be located in the Palisades Parking Lot. The Plaza De Panama will host a spirits garden, and the Moreton Bay Fig Tree will be up-lighted.

Shannon Sweeney representing Scott White Contemporary Art reported that the location approved by the Committee for the Bernar Venet sculpture requires a barrier to be placed around it for ADA compliance. Ms. Sweeney stated the

barrier would detract from the sculpture and requested that the Committee reconsider placing the sculpture at the original requested location on the turf east of the San Diego Museum of Art.

Committee Member Comments

- As a Non Agenda Public Comment we can not take action on this.
- Most of what was reported was discussed at the October 2008 meeting.
- Ms. Sweeney was directed to work with staff on the proposal.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Vicki Granowitz reported that the Balboa Park Committee will be dark in January 2009 due to the first Thursday of the month being January 1. Should a meeting be required an alternative date will be identified.

STAFF REPORT

Jeffery Tom reported that Councilmember Atkins is working on the budget issues and the proposed mid year reductions. The Councilmember has attended various events and a dedication in the Park this month. Jeffery expressed his pleasure in working with the community and the Committee for the last fifteen years and announced December 8 is his last day.

Kathleen Hasenauer, Deputy Director reported that on November 5 Mayor Jerry Sanders released a Report to the City Council which contains his recommendations for mitigating the current year's budget shortfall. Park and Recreation Expenditure Reduction is \$2,245,398, Revenue Increases are \$748,000, with a Net Impact of \$2,993,398. The Park and Recreation page has been provided to committee members.

On November 6 Park and Recreation Director Stacey LoMedico held a Town Hall Meeting to inform department employees of the FY 2009 proposed mid year reductions for the Park and Recreation Department. Personnel Director Hadi Dehghani discussed Understanding the Reduction--in-Force Process for FY 2009.

An Employee Town Hall Meeting with Mayor Jerry Sanders has been scheduled for Monday, November 10 at the Balboa Park Club Ballroom.

The greening of Balboa Park was featured on San Diego Insider on Channel 4 San Diego. Jack Gates interviewed me at the Lily Pond and Dr. Jeff Kirsch at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. The segment will be aired for the last time on Friday, November 7 at 6:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M.

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Facilities and Special Events District Manager distributed information regarding The Haunted Trail which concluded on November 1. The Haunted Trail made contributions to many community organizations, operated in a professional manner and staff did not receive any complaints from area residents.

The Cool Globes are on display until November 30 around the Bea Evenson

Fountain and Cascades area. The exhibit has been well received by the public. The Refugee Camp in the Heart of the City Educational Exhibit is set-up and running through the weekend on the Park and Presidents Way lawn. The Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk will pass through the Park on Sunday, November 23 before concluding downtown. The annual father Joe's Thanksgiving Day 5K Run will be held on Thursday, November 27 and will clear the Park by 11:00 A.M.. The Community Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony will take place on Saturday, November 29 at 5:00 P.M. in the Organ Pavilion.

Bruce Martinez, Operations District Manager reported that asphalt repairs and slurry sealing have been completed on the Spreckles Organ Pavilion Parking Lot, Balboa Drive, Pan American Road and Presidents Way. Bruce acknowledged Dave Long, Citywide District Manager, for his role in organizing the asphalt repair projects for the Park and Recreation Department.

On Saturday November 8 at 11:00 A.M. a celebration of Kate Sessions' Birthday will be hosted at the Marston House. Park Ranger Duclo will lead a guided walk at 11:00 A.M. The walk will be from the Marston House to the Kate Sessions Statue. The event is hosted by the San Diego Floral Association, Friends of the Marston House, the San Diego Historical Society, and the Friends of Balboa Park. At 1:00 P.M. a Lei Ceremony will commence and a floral lei will be placed on the Kate Sessions statue for the day. Park maintenance staff has renovated the shrub beds around the statue planting native plants that Kate Sessions wrote about in her articles for California Garden magazine.

On Sun. Dec. 7, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. the Holiday Poinsettia Display Open House will be hosted at The Botanical Building. The event is presented by City Beautiful of San Diego, Inc. The display is funded by the Rodger and Mary Lindsay Poinsettia Fund at the Balboa Park Trust and a grant from City Beautiful of San Diego, Inc.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

101. None

Adoption

201. None

Special Events

301. Old Globe 2009 Gala- Lou Spisto, Old Globe Theatre Executive Director, presented a proposal to hold the annual fundraiser in the Alcazar Garden on Saturday, July 25, 2009 from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. The event includes a silent auction and guest reception prior to the Dinner Dance in the Copley Plaza at the Old Globe Theatre. The first two rows of the Alcazar Garden Parking Lot will be used as an event load in and valet station drop off/pick up zone for guests attending the event. The garden area will be closed to all other events beginning at 6:00 A.M. With the exception of the first two rows

of the Alcazar Parking lot, public parking will be available throughout the day. Estimated attendance is 550 patrons. This event has previously been held in September. To mitigate impacts, evening shows at the Festival Theater and Copley Auditorium will not be scheduled.

Committee Member Comments

- It was confirmed that this was a one time date change.
- The summer moratorium makes this difficult to support.
- The moratorium was implemented to minimize impacts on the Park and institutions.
- The reduction of evening shows addresses the intent of the moratorium and support of the date should be considered.
- Support of this one time event can be given if a parking management plan is provided.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED DATE CHANGE OF THE OLD GLOBE 2009 GALA ON THE BASIS THAT THIS IS A ONE TIME ONLY CHANGE AND A PARKING PLAN IS PROVIDED.
(HAGER/MCDOWELL 7-0)**

WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. Balboa Park Study

The Committee Members reviewed draft copies for each question of the Study along with a Next Steps document. Content and wording was reviewed with recommendations and changes made.

Question number one: Can the City of San Diego provide the necessary financial support for Balboa Park in the future?

Committee Members Comments

- Agree with the changes highlighted on the draft.
- Long term funding can't assure parks will get their funding.
- Approve in concept, we still need to work on some of the wording.
- Questions one and two need to be reconciled with each other. This is a funding source issue for the City.
- Consistency in language and answers are necessary. This is a policy document.
- Clarifying statement is needed to denote we are discussing the City's contributions to the Park.
- The format of the draft document is excellent and should be used for all three questions.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE MOVING OF THE BALBOA PARK STUDY WORKSHOP ITEM QUESTION ONE TO AN ACTION ITEM.
(STEELE/MCDOWELL 7-0)**

Committee Member Comments

- An inquiry was made to when the final report is planning to be provided.
- December 18, 2008 is the target date for the final report.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE QUESTION ONE IN CONCEPT WITH THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES AND ADDITIONS.
(MCDOWELL/STEELE 7-0)**

Question number two: Even if the city of San Diego can should it do so?

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE MOVING OF THE BALBOA PARK STUDY WORKSHOP ITEM QUESTION TWO TO AN ACTION ITEM.
(MCDOWELL/STEELE 7-0)**

Committee Member Comments

- It is not feasible at this time but efforts should start now to remedy that.
- The institutions should provide documentation of what they have raised in capital projects. This information is important for our backup documents so the public can understand the value they have created in the community.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE QUESTION TWO IN CONCEPT AS IS.
(MCDOWELL/STEELE 7-0)**

Question number three: If it (City of San Diego) wishes to expand management and governance of the park, what are the alternatives for it to do so?

Committee Member Comments

- We need to provide a recommendation.
- The Next Steps should be a recommendation of what the Committee thinks things should look like.
- A statement of principles is needed.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE MOVING OF THE BALBOA PARK STUDY WORKSHOP ITEM QUESTION THREE TO AN ACTION ITEM.
(MCDOWELL/KINNEY 7-0)**

Committee Member Comments

- Concerns were expressed with Section V. Conclusions/Recommendations. The kind of non-profit board referred to in Section V.1. would not be successful in raising funds.
- The board needs to be a fund raising board with the greatest power of and philanthropic stakeholders in the City to support the infrastructure of the park.
- Cross section boards are typically not a fund raising board and fund raising is a major function of this new entity.
- A cross section involvement along with the City should serve to identify what it wants and what is needed, not fund raise.
- “With the ability to substantially raise funds” needs to be added into the Section V.1.
- Reordering of Section V. Conclusions/Recommendations should reflect V.1. as; The City should retain ultimate authority over park... V.2.as; The City of San Diego should maintain at a minimum... And V.3.as; Management and Governance should be expanded...
- V.5. should have “supported and” removed.
- V. 13. concerns were expressed about a volunteer program being stated as a first priority.

Public Comments

- Terminology of “Maintenance of Effort” needs to be incorporated into V.3.
- You need to look at the Federal model used by the National Park Service of Cooperative Associations.
- V.2 needs to have land use decisions added.
- Fund raising is most important and should have broad based involvement.
- Concerns were expressed on management and governance of the Park. Park and Recreation staff will serve two masters. You need to tread very cautiously

MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE QUESTION THREE IN CONCEPT WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION AND REVIEW TO SECTION V. 1, 5, AND 13 ALSO REORDERING OF STATEMENTS IN SECTION V. TO REFLECT 2 AS 1, 3 AS 2, AND 1 AS 3. (MCDOWELL/STEELE) 7-0

Next Steps: Recommendation for setting up a second phase process was discussed.

Committee Member Comments

- Next Steps should be broad based involvement with fund raising being most important. The second phase will decide the constitution of the board.
- Next Steps 3.e should include tourism experience.

Public Comments

- Next Steps second phase should provide constitution of the board.

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. None

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

601. Land-Use and Policy – None

COMMMTTEE MEMBER REPORT

Don Steele acknowledged Vicki Granowitz for being honored by City Council Resolution adopting October 28, 2008 as Vicki Granowitz Day in the City of San Diego.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Granowitz adjourned the meeting at 8:16 P.M.

Next Balboa Park Study Meeting:

Thursday, November 20, 2008
5:30 P.M.
Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Next Regular Meeting:

Thursday, December 4, 2008
5:30 P.M.
War Memorial Building
3325 Zoo Drive
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen S. Hasenauer